

ARTICLE APPEARED
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First Defendant to Testify

George Crile, the first of the defendants to take the stand in Gen. William C. Westmoreland's \$120 million libel suit against CBS, is a 39-year-old film producer with a taste for politically controversial journalism.

Before producing the disputed documentary, "The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception," Mr. Crile worked on films and reports for CBS that included documentaries on Panama, South Africa, drug dealing in Miami, homosexual rights, Three Mile Island and the Central Intelligence Agency. In June 1983, when Mr. Crile was suspended by the network for a year for having violated a CBS News standard by tape recording a telephone conversation with former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara without telling him, he was at work on a documentary about Nicaragua.

Mr. Crile, born in San Diego in 1945, is the son of Dr. George Crile

Jr. and Jane Halle Crile. Mr. Crile's stepmother was Helga Sandburg, the daughter of the poet Carl Sandburg. Mr. Crile attended Trinity College, graduated in 1968 and entered the Marine reserve training program. He worked briefly for the columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson before becoming a reporter for The Gary (Ind.) Post-Register, and then joined Knight-Ridder Newspapers as Pentagon correspondent. From 1973 to 1976, he was Washington editor of Harper's Magazine.

In 1976, on joining CBS News, he produced "The CIA: the Secret Army" and won an Emmy Award. In 1982 he produced "The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception."

Brown-haired, blue-eyed, 5 foot 11 and 170 pounds, Mr. Crile married Susan Lyne, a feature film producer, last summer. He has two daughters from his first marriage.